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House of Representatives

The House met at 12:30 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. OTTER).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

Washington, DC, April 7, 2003. I hereby appoint the Honorable C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

J. DENNIS HASTERT, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Monahan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed bills of the following titles in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 273. An act to provide for the expeditious completion of the acquisition of land owned by the State of Wyoming within the boundaries of Grand Teton National Park, and for other purposes.

and for other purposes. S. 302. An act to revise the boundaries of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area in the State of California, to restore and extend the term of the advisory commission for the recreation area, and for other purposes.

S. 426. An act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain parcels of land acquired for the Blunt Reservoir and Pierre Canal features of the initial stage of the Oahe Unit, James Division, South Dakota, to the Commission of Schools and Public Lands and the Department of Game, Fish, and Parks of the State of South Dakota for the purpose of mitigating lost wildlife habitat, on the condition that the current preferential lease-holders shall have an option to purchase the parcels from the Commission, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the Senate disagrees to the amendment of the House to the bill (S. 151) "An Act to amend title 18, United States Code, with respect to the sexual exploitation of children," agrees to a conference asked by the House on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon, and appoints Mr. HATCH, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr.

SESSIONS, Mr. GRAHAM of South Carolina, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. KENNEDY, and Mr. BIDEN to be the conferees on the part of the Senate.

The message also announced that the Senate disagrees to the amendments of the House to the bill (S. 342) "An Act to amend the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act to make improvements to and reauthorize programs under that Act, and for other purposes," requests a conference with the House on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon, and appoints Mr. GREGG, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. DEWINE, Mr. KENNEDY, and Mr. DODD to be the conferees on the part of the Senate.

MORNING HOUR DEBATES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 7, 2003, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning hour debates. The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with each party limited to not to exceed 30 minutes, and each Member, except the majority leader, the minority leader, or the minority whip, limited to not to exceed 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. BLUMENAUER) for 5 minutes.

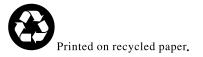
SALUTING SENATOR MOYNIHAN

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, much has been written recently about Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan, scholar, politician, diplomat, public servant. We have been reminded again, in the wake of his passing, of his intellectual and political contributions dealing with the most sensitive and complex questions of our society. Ideas that were controversial when he first advanced them are now accepted as conventional wisdom.

I rise today to salute this giant and his greatest gift, which is to influence how America faces its challenges. He was regarded appropriately as a tremendous architectural influence. No one over the last third of a century has done more to shape American communities. His influence can be seen from the steps of the Capitol with the creation of the Pennsylvania Avenue Redevelopment Corporation. He worked to restore once magnificent James Farley Post Office in New York back to life as a new Penn Station. He was the intellectual force behind the revolutionary 1991 ISTEA legislation, allowing communities to use transportation resources to shape their development rather than transportation choices shaping our communities. His legacy gave more power to citizens at all levels and made the money go farther to do more and better things.

As we begin the reauthorization this Congress of his landmark ISTEA legislation, we deal with many opportunities to revitalize America's communities through wise infrastructure investment, a critical and underappreciated part of the Moynihan legacy. But, Mr. Speaker, I think there is an even more important part of his legacy for those of us who serve in this Chamber. At a time when our problems appear more complex and difficult and when our divisions appear deeper than ever before, Senator Moynihan gave us a blueprint for channeling the riches and power of America to greatness at home and abroad. At a time when the activities here somehow make the most monumental occasions appear smaller than life, we can look to this intellectual and political giant, himself larger than life, who had a gift to magnify the things he said and did. His advice for us would be to put aside the narrow and the partisan, not to rationalize what we know to be reckless or inappropriate in the name of the legislative process, and have the courage to

 \Box This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., \Box 1407 is 2:07 p.m. Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



have the free exercise of ideas and debate, not to stifle discussion here on this floor.

Some of the Senator's more profound contributions initially appeared extraordinarily controversial. Only after they were entered into debate did their meaning take root and the controversial become the accepted. People here can honor the legacy of Senator Moynihan by doing the time-honored work of Congress, debating, listening, legislating, and working together in committee and in the House Chamber; and seize the tremendous opportunities to deal with world peace, the protection and economic security of our families and safeguarding the environment.

In honoring the memory of Senator Moynihan in practice, we will be honoring the trust that has been given to us by our constituents. We too can be larger than life rather than a side show while the real drama is worked out in some back room. We can reflect our own hearts and visions and the needs of our communities rather than being orchestrated by focus groups and special interests. Part of what characterized Senator Moynihan's genius was simply that he presented ideas regardless of the short-term public relations and political consequences. This meant that some people in Washington, D.C., were nervous working with him. It made it harder for some of the powers that be and the media pundits, but as the Senator proved time and time again, it made it easier to push America to do the right thing.

As someone raised in an often bipartisan or even nonpartisan Oregon political culture, this simple truth seems so obvious but somehow elusive in today's Washington, D.C. By doing our job as legislators, as independent, thoughtful representatives, we can make vital contributions during the most critical times since we were fighting Hitler and recovering from the Depression. I suspect the Senator himself would deem that to be a most fitting tribute to his legacy.

LET US DECLARE ENERGY INDEPENDENCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 7, 2003, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. SMITH) is recognized during morning hour debates for 5 minutes.

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, there has been a lot of news, of course, about the war in Iraq. Where are we going and how long is it going to take to win the military battle. I think it is important that we do not underestimate the length of time it is going to take for the transition after we win the military battle. Bradley Smith and now some former Iraqi officials have suggested at least 2 years, maybe 2 years of martial law to get a society and a people who for most of their adult lives have never lived under any rule except Saddam Hussein. The transition to a democracy is going to take time. Brad also suggested that we should have a military base in Umm Qasr, down in the southeast corner of Iraq. How does all this play into probably the most extensive oil field potential for oil in the world in that country of Iraq?

This last weekend, some suggested that we are fighting in Iraq because of our dependence on foreign energy. While that is not true, the consequences of our dependence are certainly serious. This first became very clear to many of us during the Arab oil embargo during the early 1970s when at that time I was serving on the presidential oil policy commission. We need this foreign energy because it is a vital component for fostering economic growth, but considering the situation in Iraq, regardless of the consequences and the sluggishness of the economy, we need to reduce our energy dependence by serving and developing new sources of energy, and that need has probably never been greater in this country. This is why the energy bill passed out of our Committee on Science last week will be on the floor very shortly.

Oil and natural gas account for 39 and 23 percent of overall energy usage in our country. In the United States, domestic production of petroleum is nearly 8 million barrels a day, which includes 5.8 million barrels of crude oil and 2.2 million barrels of natural gas liquids; 8 million barrels a day in the United States. And while 11 countries have more petroleum reserves, we are currently the second largest producer in the world, behind only Saudi Arabia. Most of the new petroleum exploration taking place in the United States today is done by smaller companies. The bigger companies have decided they want to bypass the regulatory process, the environmental influence and the fact that we have already explored much in the United States for oil. So what we have left in the United States is mostly the smaller companies that are making this exploration.

Historically, conservation has been the primary method of reducing our dependence. It has been successful and we have seen American energy efficiency increase dramatically. Since 1970, GDP, our gross domestic product, has risen by 170 percent while energy consumption is up by only 42 percent. The energy bill will help us do even better with a focus on more efficient appliances, electricity generation and certainly automotive transmission. Because a growing economy would tend to increase use, the energy bill boosts our efforts to develop alternatives to petroleum. Today, America consumes about 19 million barrels of petroleum a day, about 44 percent of which is motor gasoline. That means a new motor fuel would have a dramatic impact on U.S. usage. The energy bill increases research into ethanol and biofuels made from agricultural crops. Science and research get substantial increases from language that we have added to the bill in order to develop and perfect emerging technologies, including fusion energy and neutron source power, we have heard a lot about hydrogen cells for automobiles, and certainly improved clean coal technology.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, our dependence built up slowly over decades. Unfortunately it may also take decades to reduce that dependence, even under the best of circumstances. Shocks and problems will continue to cause many problems for our economy and our foreign policy. Still, if we act now, research can secure the energy that the American economy needs to grow and produce and it can result in more and better good-paying jobs, not only for our generation but for our kids and our grandkids.

PRESIDENT BUSH'S VISIT TO BELFAST

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 7, 2003, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) is recognized during morning hour debates for 5 minutes.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, as you may know, President Bush is in Northern Ireland today to hold meetings with Prime Minister Blair to discuss and to strategize about the ongoing war in Iraq. While I understand that this important war summit will take up much of his time and energy, it is my hope that the President will take some time to discuss with Prime Minister Blair the current peace process in Northern Ireland.

Mr. Speaker, later this week, April 10 to be specific, will mark the fifth anniversary of the Good Friday Accords which set up the power-sharing government in Northern Ireland. Unfortunately, this power-sharing government has been suspended since October. Prime Minister Blair and his counterpart in Ireland, Bertie Ahern, have been negotiating for months with the representative parties to come up with an agreement that will allow for resumption of the Belfast Assembly.

As reported in today's New York Times, it seems the two prime ministers are planning to unveil an emergency formula that they hope will break the impasse and put the powersharing government back on track. Mr. Speaker, while this is obviously good news, I worry that Prime Minister Blair will not go far enough to ensure that there is a lasting peace in Northern Ireland. Mr. Blair must take immediate steps in providing all residents of Northern Ireland the basic rights that they deserve. I hope that President Bush will use his influence with the Prime Minister to call on him to provide the people of Northern Ireland with a basic bill of rights. It is quite obvious to me that without a binding document that lays out the rights and liberties for all residents of Northern Ireland, the Belfast Assembly and the Good Friday Accords will not accomplish the goal of a permanent peace.